



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INDEPENDENCE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO METH CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Independence, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to his role in a conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine.

Jose R. Siller, 28, of Independence, pleaded guilty before U.S. Chief District Judge Dean Whipple to the charge contained in an April 1, 2005, federal indictment.

By pleading guilty today, **Siller** admitted that he participated in a conspiracy to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine and marijuana from April 1, 2003, to Aug. 26, 2004. **Siller** sold methamphetamine to an undercover law enforcement officer on four occasions in October and November 2003, Graves said. **Siller** also sold marijuana to an undercover law enforcement officer on four occasions between April and September 2003.

Siller received a delivery of seven pounds of marijuana, which had been shipped via UPS from Houston, Texas, on Aug. 26, 2004. **Siller** admitted that he intended to distribute the marijuana.

The total amount of methamphetamine sold by or recovered from **Siller** was 109.49 grams. The total amount of marijuana sold by or recovered from **Siller** was nine kilograms.

Under federal statutes, **Siller** could be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in federal prison without parole, up to life in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$4 million. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Kathleen D. Mahoney. It was investigated by the Jackson County Drug Task Force.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html